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SEQUEL

TO

THE LATE VISIT

OF THE

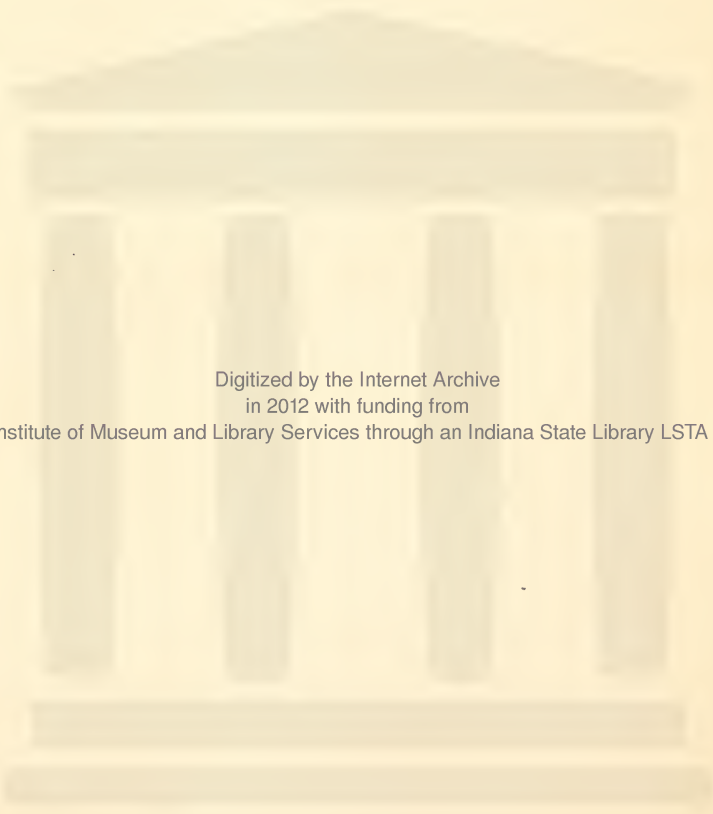
RUSSIAN FLEET TO THE UNITED STATES,

UNDER COMMAND OF

REAR-ADMIRAL LESSOFFSKY.

ST. PETERSBURG.

AUGUST 23th 1860.



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ST. PETERSBURG.

AUGUST 28th 1884.  
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Дозволено цензурою, 15 сентября 1864 года.

ON the 11th of August, Prince Galitzin, Aide de camp to the Minister of Marine, and on his behalf, presented himself at the Legation of the United States in St. Petersburg, Russia; and announced to General Clay, Representative of that country, that it was the desire of Rear-Admiral Lessoffsky, and the officers under his command, to call on him and return thanks for the friendly reception which they had everywhere received in America.

His Excellency, the Minister of the United States, in reply, assured Prince Galitzin that he highly appreciated the honor, and begged leave to appoint the following Thursday, the 18th instant, at noon.

Accordingly, on that day, Rear-Admiral Lessoffsky accompanied by a numerous suite; and preceded by Rear-Admiral Greig, Aide de camp, and principal Secretary to His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, entered the Legation, and were received by General Clay, and Mr. Bergh, Secretary.

Rear-Admiral Greig then formally communicated, in English, the object of the visit, prefacing the presentation of Admiral Lessoffsky and his officers, by a speech, in the following words.

General.

By command of His Majesty the Emperor, my august master; I have the honor to introduce to Your Excellency, Admiral Lessoffsky, and the officers of the squadron, late in America, under his command.

You are aware, doubtless, that His Imperial Majesty has already, through his Minister at Washington, expressed to the President his warmest thanks for the cordial and brilliant reception which was extended to the Russian flag, by the government and people of the United States. Now, it is the desire of His Imperial Majesty, that one of the first acts of the Admiral, and his officers, on their return to St. Petersburg, should be, to present themselves before the American Minister, for the purpose of giving utterance to the grateful feelings which animate them individually, as well as the entire Navy, and all classes of society throughout the empire, for the hearty welcome and magnificent hospitality, which they have been the recipients of, during their sojourn in the waters of the Great Republic, so ably represented here by you.

Admiral Greig then formally presented each officer present; after which, Admiral Lessoffsky spoke as follows.

Your Excellency.

It is by command of our august Sovereign, as well as the promptings of our own feelings, that we appear here to-day, to return our grateful acknowledgments to the

Minister of the United States, for the distinguished hospitality which has been extended to us, during our prolonged stay in America. Our beloved master, in thus anticipating our wishes, gives another evidence of the nobleness of his nature, while manifesting his high appreciation of such gratifying assurances of the genuine friendship of a great and gallant people. For ourselves, Sir, we realize how impotent is language to faithfully represent the emotions which we experience, at the recollection of the boundless, and untiring goodness heaped upon us by the men and women of your great nation; beginning with our appearance, and scarcely ending by the articulation of the reluctant word «adieu.»

General; during our usually stormy voyage of life, it is a pleasant thing, and we congratulate ourselves upon our good fortune when we receive shelter only, from the pitiless storm; but, where is the man, and where the apparatus of speech, that can correctly photograph his sensations, when the stranger in addition to this, beholds the unstinted bounty of a nation offered him, by the warm hand of friendship.

For myself, I have ploughed many a sea, and let go my anchor in many hospitable havens; but, the one you represent, Sir, has left preponderating remembrances; just as the impressions inspired by a sight of America's great cataract, surpass the emotions occasioned by all similar phenomena of nature. That the day is not distant,

when your country — now passing through the school of adversity — shall be again happily united; is our earnest prayer, and that of all generous Russians.

This speech being finished, the American Minister responded in the following language.

I am proud to be the medium of transmission to my country of His Imperial Majesty's good will, and of the thanks of yourselves and the Russian naval officers, late in America. Individual friendships spring from natural laws. They are always agreeable, often useful : a wise man ever seeks to make friends, from policy, if not from sentiment. Such considerations are applicable both to nations and to individuals.

Russia, the great power of the Eastern, and the United States of America of the Western world, having no antagonistic interests, would naturally obey these laws of affinity. For though one government is autocratic, and the other republican, no necessary antagonism results from such difference of forms.

Although we are not prepared to go as far as Pope :

« Let fools about forms of government contest.

That which is best administered is best. »

Yet we of all people are least inclined to propagandism : because we are eminently practical, and we know that political institutions grow, and are not made.

From the time of Catharine II, and the hour of our national birth, we have been friends. It was our interest to be so. But, admiral, allow me to say that the enthusiasm, with which you have been received in America, sprang from no such cold calculation. It was based upon a higher principle than interest—sentiments yet nobler than the gratitude which we owed your Emperor, for his friendship in our hour of trial and misfortune—it came of a common cause in the advancement of our common humanity. Alexandre II has liberated by his will more than twenty millions of serfs: we by the power of arms project the freedom of four millions of slaves. Never before in the history of the world had God given into the hands of one man so much power for good: and most nobly, and intelligently, and bravely has the Emperor done his work. Peter the Great, on the level of the civilization of his age, mastered the physical forces. Powerful in arms, he added new territories to the old: and with iron will and rare intelligence consolidated the power of all. Seeing that in the work-shop were created the embryos of the triumphs of the battle-field, by personal example, he sought to make labor honorable. He failed, because his people were slaves. With all his power he could not remedy the uncleanness of his peasants; nor compel them to cut their unseemly beards! The peasant seemed wiser than the prince. They needed their beards for protection against the cold: the way to cleanse them was not to *shave*, but to *free* them!

The Emperor Alexander, having a higher stand-point upon the advancing centuries — knowing that mind is superior to matter — wields the moral, as Peter did the physical forces.

He has made the peasants free — freedom will bring self-respect, and self-respect cleanliness. Greater than Peter, he has made labor honorable, since it is no longer the badge of slavery.

And yet he has his calumniators: and so have we! From the enemies of progress, the world over, come hypocritical cries against our « fratricidal war! »

Great are our sacrifices in blood and treasure, but greater yet will be the gain of our triumph to the human race. Often men have fought for their own liberty: we struggle not for our own but for the liberties of others. Every fallen hero is the world's martyr, who dies that the nations may live forever.

I thank God that I live to witness these great events. Proud of the history of my own country, I yet congratulate myself upon my associations with your own great Monarch. In Russian annals he will be enrolled as « the Emperor of all the Russias, King of Poland, Duke of Finland, » and « a that » — but the world shall better know him, for all time, as « Alexander the Great — the Liberator — the Friend of mankind! »

The following is the speech of General Clay, translated into the Russian language.

Отвѣтъ генерала Клея адмираламъ ГРЕЙГУ и ЛЬСОВСКОМУ.

Адмиралы,

Я горжусь быть передателемъ моей странѣ добрыхъ расположеній къ ней Его Императорскаго Величества и вашей благодарности, совокупно съ русскими моряками, которые были недавно въ Америкѣ. Частныя дружбы рождаются въ слѣдствіе природныхъ законовъ. Онѣ всегда пріятны, иногда полезны: умный человѣкъ ищетъ друзей изъ расчета, если не изъ чувства. Такое воззрѣніе можетъ прикладываться не только частнымъ лицамъ, но и народамъ.

Россія, великая держава Востока, и Соединенные Штаты Америки, великая держава Запада, не имѣя противоположныхъ интересовъ, неминуемо должны были руководствоваться этими законами сближенія. Хотя одно правленіе самодержавное, а другое республиканское — однако, изъ разности формъ правленія, не слѣдуетъ антагонизмъ. Не идя такъ далеко какъ Попе, который говоритъ :

« Пусть глупцы говорятъ о формахъ правленія,
То государство, которое управляется лучше — въ томъ
и форма правленія лучше.» *)

однако мы изъ всѣхъ народовъ менѣе всѣхъ склонны къ пропагандизму, будучи чрезвычайно практичны и зная, что политическія учрежденія вырабатываются, но не творятся.

*) См. Англійскій переводъ стиховъ Попе.

Со времянъ Екатерины II-ой и съ часа нашего народнаго рожденія — мы всегда были друзьями. Это было въ нашихъ интересахъ. Но, адмиралы, позвольте вамъ сказать, что энтузіазмъ, съ которымъ вы были приняты въ Америкѣ, не былъ причененъ холоднымъ разсчетомъ; онъ покоился на болѣе возвышенномъ основаніи, чѣмъ на чувствахъ разсчета, еще на болѣе брагородномъ, чѣмъ на чувствахъ благодарности Вашему Государю за его дружбу къ намъ въ часы испытанія и несчастія — онъ происходилъ отъ нашихъ обоюдныхъ подвиговъ въ чело-вѣколюбіи. Александръ II-й освободилъ по своей волѣ болѣе 22,000,000 крѣпостныхъ; мы силою оружія замы-шаемъ освобожденіе 4,000,000 рабовъ. Никогда прежде, въ исторіи міра, мы не встрѣчали примѣра, чтобъ Богъ далъ одному чело-вѣку столько власти для добра и въ вы-сочайшей степени благородно, просвѣтленно и отважно Государь совершилъ великое дѣло. Петръ Великій, на краю просвѣщенія своего времени, поборолъ физическія силы; побѣдоносный въ войнахъ, онъ увеличилъ свои владѣнія и желѣзною волей утвердилъ свое государство на прочномъ основаніи. Виля, что терпѣливый трудъ при-готовляетъ тріумфы на полѣ битвы — онъ своимъ соб-ственнымъ примѣромъ старался облагородить трудъ. Онъ такъ дѣйствовалъ — потому что его подданные были рабы. Не смотря на всю свою власть онъ не могъ уничтожити неопрятность своихъ мужиковъ, не могъ за-ставить ихъ брить свои некрасивыя бороды!

Но въ этомъ случаѣ мужикъ опередилъ своего госу-

даря; онъ нуждался въ своей бородѣ, которая защищала его отъ холода, — его можно было просвѣтить не бритвой, а свободой.

Императоръ Александръ, имѣя высшее воззрѣніе на грядущія столѣтія, развиваетъ моральныя силы своего народа, какъ Петръ дѣлалъ съ силами физическими. Онъ освободилъ крестьянъ; свобода принесетъ самоуваженіе, а самоуваженіе — просвѣщеніе. Болѣе великій чѣмъ Петръ, онъ облагородилъ трудъ, съ тѣхъ поръ какъ онъ не принадлежность рабства.

И не смотря на то, у него есть клеветники!... Клеветники есть и у насъ. Враги прогресса кричатъ, съ фальшивымъ умиленіемъ, противъ нашей «братоубійственной войны.»

Огромны наши пожертвованія и кровью и деньгами, но еще огромнѣйшую пользу принесетъ нашъ триумфъ человѣчеству. Часто народы дрались за свою свободу; мы деремся не за свою свободу а за свободу другихъ; всякій падшій герой — мученикъ міра; онъ умираетъ, чтобы народы могли жить вѣчно.

Я благодарю Бога, что могу быть свидѣтелемъ этихъ великихъ событій. Гордясь исторіей своей страны и ея дѣлами, я счастливъ, что самъ могу имѣть сношенія съ Вашимъ Государемъ. Въ Русской Исторіи объ немъ будутъ говорить какъ объ Императорѣ всей Россіи, Королѣ Польскомъ, Великомъ Герцогѣ Финляндскомъ и проч., но міръ будетъ лучше знать его на вѣки — какъ Александра Великаго, освободителя и друга человѣчества.

General Clay then presented the Secretary of Legation, Henry Bergh Esq., remarking as he did so, that, as French was, perhaps, more generally understood by those present than English; the secretary would offer some remarks in that language.

Messieurs.

Je ne saurais résister à la tentation d'ajouter quelques paroles à celles de M. le général Clay, pour vous assurer de la satisfaction que, moi aussi, j'éprouve en vous voyant ici aujourd'hui, dans la légation de mon pays — et d'autant plus que votre visite a pour but, de nous faire part de la satisfaction que vous a fait éprouver l'accueil aimable dont vous avez été l'objet en Amérique.

Par cette bonne réception des officiers et de la flotte de Sa Majesté Impériale, messieurs, nos compatriotes se sont montrés digne de cette amitié qui a duré si longtemps entre les deux pays, et qui est basée sur le respect et la bonne volonté mutuelle.

Pendant votre séjour aux Etats-Unis, les journaux de l'Europe ont été vivement excités à propos du caractère et du but de votre voyage, et on n'a pas manqué de lui attribuer des motifs politiques peu agréables pour quelques pays étrangers.

Je n'abuserai pas de vos moments en vous citant les diverses hypothèses que ces journaux ont avancées pour rendre compte d'un état de choses aussi bizarre, — aussi dénaturé — selon leur point de vue, — que de voir deux pays, si éloignés l'un de l'autre par le système de leur gouvernement, comme le sont la Russie et l'Améri-

que, — en même temps tellement rapprochés par leur amitié ! Pour vous, messieurs, et pour nous, ce phénomène n'en est point un.

Il s'explique par une franchise mutuelle et sans arrière-pensée, — par une amitié qui ne connaît aucun souvenir blessant, — et surtout par une ferme résolution de ne pas intervenir dans nos affaires réciproques.

Tels sont les moyens « mystérieux, » messieurs, par lesquels la vieille alliance qui existe entre votre pays et le nôtre a été maintenue ; et plutôt à Dieu que cette alliance ne soit jamais troublée !

Il est aussi facile de s'imaginer les avantages qui pourraient résulter de la même politique, loyalement pratiquée, entre les autres gouvernements du monde.

Alors, messieurs, les dépenses énormes pour la construction des flottes ennemies, — pour l'organisation des armées colossales, — pour la fabrication des armes et d'autres munitions de guerre, deviendraient inutiles, et tout cela pourrait être remplacé par l'industrie bien ordonnée, — la fraternité universelle, — et par une véritable civilisation.

Dès lors, messieurs, on ne verrait plus des cités en feu, des champs désolés ; on n'entendrait plus le cri déchirant de ces victimes d'une politique aussi égoïste que cruelle ; — enfin, messieurs, tout le monde comprendrait cette alliance « mystérieuse » qui existe entre la Russie et l'Amérique.

(TRANSLATION.)

Gentlemen.

I find it difficult resisting the temptation, to add a few remarks to those of General Clay, expressive of my pleasure also at seeing you here to-day — in the legation of our country — and more especially so, since the object you have in view, is to testify your gratification with the friendly reception which you have every-where met with in the United States.

By this courteous reception of the officers and fleet of His Imperial Majesty, gentlemen, our countrymen have shown themselves worthy of that ancient alliance, which has for its basis mutual respect and good will.

During your absence from your country, the journals of Europe have been greatly exercised in divining the object of your visit; and a majority of them have not hesitated to attribute to it a political character, not over favourable to certain European nations.

I will not detain you by citing the various hypotheses, which these journals have advanced, in order to explain the singular anomaly of two countries, so dissimilar in the form, and polity of their government — at the same time so closely connected, through their friendly relations, as Russia and America.

But, to us, gentlemen, this presents no difficulty in the way of our perfect comprehension of it. It is explained by a mutually frank, and generous policy — by a friend-

ship, which knows no wounding souvenir — and, above all, by the observance of a firm resolution, not to intermeddle in the domestic affairs of one another.

Such are the means, by which this «mysterious alliance» has been maintained between your country and ours, and I pray God that it may never be impaired.

Nor is it difficult to imagine, the vast advantages which would likewise result to all the governments of the world, by the faithful exercise of a similar policy in their intercourse with one another. Then, gentlemen, the enormous expenditures of the present day — in the construction of hostile fleets — the organization of prodigious armies — the fabrication of arms, and other munitions of war, would cease; to be speedily substituted by a beneficent industry — universal fraternity — and a genuine civilisation.

From thenceforth, burning cities, and desolated fields, so common in our time, would no more be seen; no longer would the agonizing cry of those wretched victims to a policy, as selfish as it is cruel, be heard: in a word, gentlemen, the entire world would be brought to understand that «mysterious alliance,» which subsists between Russia and America.

The formalities of the interview being terminated, the party circulated through the rooms of the Legation; pausing, from time to time, before the portraits of Washington, and His Imperial Majesty Alexander II, which conspicuously adorn the walls.

VISIT TO THE FLEET AT CRONSTADT.

According to appointment, made on the occasion of the foregoing reception, the Minister of the United States, accompanied by the Secretary of Legation, visited Rear-Admiral Lessoffsky, on board his ship the « Osliaba » lying at Cronstadt, on the following Saturday.

At noon of that day, an officer was sent to the Legation, to announce that the yacht of the Emperor was in readiness at the English Quay, and on arriving on board, General Clay, and the Secretary, were received by Rear-Admiral Greig, chief of the Staff of His Imperial Highness, the Grand Duke, General-Admiral; and immediately thereafter started for the fleet, the flag of the Republic flying at the masthead. The numerous government vessels lying at anchor, or at the quays along the entire route, manifested their cognizance of the event, by manning the rigging; and as the yacht drop'd anchor on its arrival, the Flag-ship fired a salute of fifteen guns, as the « Stars and Stripes » were unfolded to the breeze from the masthead. With the rapidity incident to perfect order and high discipline, the «gig» of the Admiral was in a few minutes along side the yacht, and the party were conducted, through a rough sea, to the stately, and defiant floating fortress of the gallant Admiral. Amidst cheers, the roar of cannon, and the national airs of the Republic, admirably performed by the band of the Flag-ship; the Minister, Secretary, and their gentlemanly escort, Rear-Admiral Greig, ascended to the deck, where the commander, surrounded by his officers, awaited their arrival.

Now were manifested those graceful personal courtesies; which while they tend to smoothe the rude asperities that exist along the highway of life — as unerringly proclaim the high bred gentleman, as lights along a friendly seacoast, indicate its form and bearing.

Having been shown throughout this splendidly appointed ship, Admiral Lessoffsky then invited the party to inspect the numerous souvenirs with which he had been presented during his sojourn in the United States; and subsequently the entire company sat down to a beautiful déjeuner, that was appropriately interspersed with speeches and sentiments, among which are given the following, as evidences of the friendly and social feeling that pervades the minds of the citizens of both countries.

THE DÉJEUNER.

List of guests invited to the entertainment given to his Excellency General Clay, Minister plenipotentiary; and to Henry Bergh, Esq., Secretary of the Legation of the United States of America, by Rear-Admiral Lessoffsky, on board his flag-ship the *Oслиaba* at Cronstadt.

His Excellency, Vice-Admiral Berens, commander in chief of Cronstadt.

His Excellency, Rear-Admiral baron Taube, chief of staff to the commander in chief.

His Excellency, Rear-Admiral general Greig, assistant to the ministre of marine.

Captain Boutakoff, commanding the frigate *Oслиaba*.

Captain Kopitoff, commanding the frigate *Peresvet*.

Captain Kremer, commanding the corvette *Vitiaz*.

Captain Sarcovnin, flag-captain of the squadron.

And the staff of the Admiral, and the officers of the *Oслиaba*.

The first toast, was given by Admiral Lessoffsky.

Gentlemen.

I desire you to unite with me in doing honor to a name, which the possessor has already rendered immortal, by the exercise of high moral courage, in opposition to erroneous popular prejudice; and the practice of a sublime humanity in the emancipation of the slave.

« His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. »

General Glay responded.

I might perhaps legitimately confine myself to the simple proposal of the health of the representative of your nation « the Emperor of Russia; » but, when I reflect that his deeds belong not to Russia only but to the world, you will allow me to propose the health of

« Alexander, the Liberator. »

The third toast was presented by Mr. Bergh, Secretary of Legation.

Gentlemen.

I enjoy the distinguished honor of being permitted to offer a toast, the mention of which suggests the futility of comment, and the feebleness of the rarest eloquence. For, while on the one hand, it fills your loyal hearts, and ours, with tender recollections of the holy mission of woman on earth — her love, charity, gentleness, and maternal devotion, compared with which the loftiest political and social positions in this world are but tributary: it on the other hand addresses itself to our manly

appreciation of all that is honorable, chivalric, and glorious in the nature of man. But, let me not further mar the beauty of the sentiment, by longer dwelling on it. — Gentlemen.

« Your Christian Sovereign, Her Majesty, the Empress of Russia, and the Imperial family. »

By an admirably pre-concerted arrangement, as each of the three first toasts were uttered, the battery of the Osliaba mingled its roar along with the cheers of the convives in the cabin.

Admiral Lessoffsky then proposed

« The health of the American minister. »

Who in turn offered —

« Prosperity to the Russian Navy. »

To this, Admiral Lessoffsky replied in the following speech.

Gentlemen.

The sentiment just offered by my honored guest — « the prosperity of the Russian Navy » — calls for a hearty response, in favour of that of the United States; towards which we all entertain reminiscences of such a grateful character, that death alone can obliterate them. For my part, I shall ever remember with pride the many tokens of good will with which, I personally, have been honored by the most eminent commanders of that gallant Navy; and never shall I forget the pleasant intercourse I have had with all the brave and devoted sons of that arm of the national defence; who, by their energy, determination, and professional skill, have proved themselves worthy of those illustrious predecessors; whom, history informs us,

converted the growing trees of the forest into powerful ships of war, in the incredibly brief space of fifty days!

Everywhere, that obstacles present themselves to bar their steady progress, do we discover the same heroism, and inventive genius in removing them; ships, of shapes unheard of before, are seen sailing upon waters, hitherto only navigated by the clumsy and shallow flatboat: — threading their way through the woods and bayous at island n° 10: — by an ingenious expedient floated over the rapids of the Red river — and finally victoriously passing the tremendous batteries of Vicksburg and New-Orleans!

Again, on the ocean we behold the little monitor, the product of the genius of Ericsson, rescuing a whole squadron of wooden ships, from the assaults of the gigantic iron clad Merrimac.

Day by day, have we been called upon to bear testimony to the distinguished virtues of these indomitable defenders of their country — their courage, daring, perseverance, faith, devotion.

Hand in hand with this Navy — upon the same path of self devotion — in the daily exercise of the virtues of the generous brave — have we known the officers of that army, of which we have now so distinguished a representative among us.

In the generous hospitalities of the camp, gentlemen, as well as the cabin, have we had occasion to note the existence of similar characteristics, giving assurance —

along with the goodness of their cause — that this people shall, and deserve to be triumphant.

I beg you, therefore, to assist me in doing honor to the toast I am about to offer — namely,

« The Navy and Army of the United States of America. »

In reply to this sentiment, General Clay said.

That it had been our good fortune to achieve improvements in naval art, as in all other practical sciences. The whole working class in our country is educated ; the labourer having knowledge of chemistry and the mechanical powers, is continually making improvements upon all old methods. The greatest inventions are made not only by the « Boss, » or master workman, but by the labourers themselves. Russia has been the first of the nations to adopt our improvements. The new system of labour will place your people in the same category with our own ; and when occasion shall occur, I doubt not you will be our teachers, as you are now, in a measure, the recipients of our dearly bought knowledge. At all events, the brotherhood of our growing navies, so auspiciously begun, I trust, will last forever.

The Minister concluded his remarks, by saying, he had heard it said, that when Russian sailors saw an American ship, they cried out — « there go our countrymen. » So, now you will allow me to propose the health of — « Our Admiral. »

The foregoing speech, and toast, were received with a storm of applause.

Captain Boutakoff, commander of the flag-ship, then rose and said.

Gentlemen.

We have drunk to the Commander in chief of the Navy and Army of the United States, as well as to those branches of the public service, collectively; and now I propose to offer a name, which — in my opinion — is more representative of that Navy, than any other in America, by reason of the brilliant deeds, its possessor has performed at New-Orleans and elsewhere, and as I believe is at this time doing before Mobile. Let us drink in a bumper,

« To the health of the gallant and heroic Admiral Farragut. »

Admiral Lessoffsky begged permission to join to this toast,

« The health of the galant Admiral's lady, the good and amiable Mrs. Farragut. » (Tumultuous cheering.)

General Greig here rose and said: that he desired to propose a toast, which he was sure would be received and supported with sincere pleasure by all those, who, two days ago, listened to the friendly sentiments, so beautifully expressed, by the subject of it, at the Legation of America.

He begged the company to unite with him in heartily cheering — « Mr. Bergh, the accomplished, and universally esteemed Secretary of the Legation of the United States. »

The cheers with which this toast was received, having subsided, Mr. Bergh in substance, said.

Gentlemen.

« I am out of my element. » Notwithstanding many years of foreign travel, and a considerable portion of the time upon the sea: in spite of the most heroic, and persistent efforts on my part to cultivate friendly relations with the monarch of the ocean, I regret to say, that I have failed to make the least progress, and that we stand to-day — in one sense — in precisely the same attitude that we did at the beginning of our acquaintance — to wit; mutual distrust and abhorrence! It is true, that the present rock like immobility of your floating *château* — the sumptuous repast before me — the delicious wines — the music — and the shouts of those iron throats on deck; but above all, the occasion which has broken their silence, have established a temporary truce between Neptune and myself; although, I think upon reflection you will agree with me, that the bit of road, lying between us and the yacht we but just quitted in the « gig » of our gallant Admiral, is rather rough, and needs repairing. In a less material sense, however, I am a great admirer of the sea, and I am bold enough to assert, that if ships would be more quiet in their deportment — or what is still better, would only sail on land — I should have been an Admiral long ago! But, as human art and science are not likely to fill up the ocean, nor reform the behavior of vessels, it follows that I shall never be promoted, although permitted, as here-to-fore, to contem-

plate its poetic beauties of fathomless depths, of boundless space, and mysterious solitude. These, and other more important associations, gentlemen, serve to render glorious, the profession, which you by your individual bearing and gallant deeds have imparted such high lustre to. Who can contemplate without emotion, a numerous and mighty fleet, about setting out for a distant land; having for its mission the restoration of that equilibrium of international obligation, which pride, passion, or ignorance, for a time may have disturbed?

But, gentlemen, you have not the time, nor I the power to do justice to such grand considerations; suffer me therefore to thank you in such inadequate terms as I have at my command, for the honor you have done me, in accepting the toast just offered by the distinguished gentleman, who has this day so kindly acted as the escort of the Minister of the United States among you; and to ask you to lend your acclamations to those of General Clay and my own, when I offer the name of Rear-Admiral Greig, coupled with that of the Governor of Cronstadt, the officers and crew of this *Russo-American* squadron.

The nine cheers, demanded by Mr. Bergh being given, and counted by him as they were pronounced : —

General Greig again rose and said: that the toast to Mr. Farragut reminded him of the one, without which no company on board the vessels of this squadron ever separated, until due honor had been done it. Therefore, in

rising as he did, for the last time, on this occasion, for the purpose of announcing it, he would premise by saying; that it was a sentiment eminently calculated to disturb the fictitious repose of many of his brother officers present; and to substitute therefore, much sighing and blushing on their part, notwithstanding their wonted manly indifference to menace and danger of every other sort. The truth is, gentlemen, the hearts of very many of this squadron have been stolen from them by the fair girls of America; and however odd it may seem, — with a full knowledge of the enormity of the deed — I rise to propose —

« The health and happiness of the ladies of America. »

This toast was received by a tornado of applause, amidst which General Clay rose and proposed:

« The ladies of Russia »

which was in like manner responded to with the most vehement cheers, tigers, etc.; and by which the repast was concluded; and soon thereafter the Minister and Secretary returned on board the yacht delighted with their reception, and immediately started for St.-Petersburg, amid the roar of cannon, the shouts of their gallant entertainers, and the manning of the rigging of all the ships lying in the roadstead.

And thus terminated one of those pleasing manifestations of international courtesy, which, unhappily for the peace, prosperity and permanent civilisation of the world, are far too rare in our time.







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